

[11th August 1960]

III.—FIRST SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1960-61.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I rise to present the first Supplementary Statement of demands for further expenditure in 1960-61. The detailed explanatory statement has been placed on the table of the House.

2. The Government have accepted all the main recommendations of the Madras Pay Commission and have announced their decision to implement them with effect from 1st June 1960. The scope of these recommendations cover about 170,000 employees of State Government. 113,000 teachers employed under various agencies and 40,000 employees of local bodies other than teachers. Formal orders implementing the revised scales of pay and the revised rates of Dearness and House Rent Allowances have since been issued, in the case of Government employees. Orders will issue shortly for teachers under local bodies and aided institutions and for other employees under local bodies. It may be hoped that the fixation of pay in the revised scales would be done and the arrears from 1st June 1960 drawn by the bulk of Government employees by the end of this month.

3. The Pay Commission has evolved the revised pay structure on the basis of minimum remuneration of 60 for an unskilled employee such as a last grade servant and Rs. 100 for a 'white-collar' worker like a Lower Division Clerk. The Commission has also recommended the merger of the bulk of dearness allowance with pay. Based on these two principles, a revised structure of pay and allowances has been evolved which represents a considerable rationalisation and simplification of the existing structure. In the revised scales, special consideration has been shown to technical personnel. Common scales of pay have been accepted for teachers whether serving under Government, local bodies or aided institutions. The pay scales for University teachers are on the basis of scales recommended by the University Grants Commission with adjustments to suit local conditions. The Commission has also recommended the permanent retention of posts which have continued as temporary for more than five years and the upgrading of a sufficient number of lower division clerical posts to the upper division in each department so as to ensure adequate promotion prospects. Government have accepted these general recommendations in principle and will implement them as early as possible. On the issue of Retirement benefits, the Commission has recommended the adoption of the Liberalised Pension Scheme enjoyed by the Central Government employees. This concession together with the merger of the bulk of the dearness allowance with pay, will effect a considerable liberalisation in the retirement benefits of low-paid Government employees.

4. The recommendations of the Commission involve an immediate cost of about Rs. 491.40 lakhs per annum. Apart from the main recommendations, the Commission had also suggested that the

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temporary increase given to pensioners may be enhanced from Rs. 6 to Rs. 10. This suggestion has also been accepted by Government at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.65 lakhs per annum. The total immediate cost per annum is therefore Rs. 500.05 lakhs. The ultimate cost of the recommendations will be about Rs. 713 lakhs per annum, but will be felt in full only over a period, as the existing employees under different age groups attain the age of superannuation and benefit in full from the merger of dearness allowance with pay and the other recommendations relating to the Liberalised calculation of pension. The present supplementary demand is for three-fourths of the immediate cost representing the expenditure for nine months in the current year.

5. One other item which has been included in the supplementary demand is a token provision of Rs. 100 for the grant of a Ways and Means advance to the statutory Madras Khadi and Village Industries Board in order to enable the Board to carry on its functions.

6. With these few words, Sir, I commend the supplementary estimates for favour of approval by the House.

IV.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—*cont.*

MR. SPEAKER: Today two leaders from the Opposition group will speak and then the Hon. Leader of the House will reply. But still I feel there is time for two or three hon. Members of the House to speak. I had asked hon. Member Sri C. N. Annadurai to come at 9-30 a.m. But he has not come so far. I presume he will come at 10.00 a.m. Therefore I will now call upon one Member from D.M.K. one Member from I.N.D.C. and one Member from Congress to speak.

I have got one more suggestion. I have got more than 20 amendments to the Motion of Thanks. Amendment Nos. 1, 3, 8 and 28 refer to the same subject, viz., rise in prices. Similarly, amendments with Nos. 2 and 21 relate to the same subject, viz., unemployment. There are several amendments which cover one another. Instead of taking vote on each amendment, if hon. Members could agree, one of the amendments covering the same subject might be taken up for voting. That would save much time of the House. It is only a suggestion. I hope the hon. Leader of the Opposition Group, Sri V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliyar and others would agree. Taking vote on each amendment covering the same subject will be a waste of time. I have only offered a suggestion. I hope hon. Members would agree to it.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: On a point of Order, Sir. May I know whether this system about which you have just now told, viz., that three more speakers would be allowed to participate in the discussion on the Governor's Address, is evolved to suit the convenience of an hon. Member who could not be present in the House to take part in the discussion. Can we change the programme thus to suit a particular Member?